

## THE MONTANA NEWS.

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## SOCIALIST LECTURERS.

From the Valley County News of Glasgow, Mont., Jan. 12:

"Murray King, who spoke on socialism Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of this week at the opera house, was listened to by good audiences, in spite of the fact that other meetings were scheduled for the same evenings. Mr. King made a good impression on those who heard him, showing a mastery of the subject. There was an absence of the rabid, anarchistic utterances which have in the past misrepresented the true socialist party. The speaker did not speak in condemnation of individuals, but spoke against the present political system. From here he went to Havre, where he is billed.

"The tendency toward socialism is evident to all. In the last election the gains made by the socialists were a surprise to both the old parties. It is probable that unless the democratic party, as a last hope of preserving the name of their party, becomes converted to the doctrines of socialism, that in the near future the socialists will out number them. Keep your eye on them in Valley county. Already some of the democrats are getting wise to the fact that it will be a good thing to stand in with the socialists, and it is safe to predict that they will attempt to fuse with them, or offer them some forlorn hope on the ticket for their support."

There is no doubt that the above is what the capitalist class would like to accomplish by means of the democratic party, so far as the socialist movement is concerned. The democratic party is used by the capitalist class as a catch-all for everything dangerous that slips through the net of the republican party. It has succeeded in swallowing all the reform movements of modern times—the greenback party, the farmers' alliance, the populist party, all labor parties. Whenever they become dangerous, and the votes of the working class are turned toward them the capitalists get the democrats to bring about a fusion deal. It is no wonder that they think they can do the same thing with the socialist party. But they are up against a different proposition when they tackle the proletarian revolution. The Montana state constitution states in article V., section 13: "Under no circumstances shall any local co-operate with any other political party." Section 14, "Any member of any local participating in primary caucuses, or in any other way taking part in the organization of any other political party, or being in the service thereof, shall be subject to trial, and expulsion after trial by his local, and there shall be no appeal to either state committee or referendum vote." Article VI, section 7, "No person can be admitted as a member of the socialist party while he holds an elective or appointive office under a capitalist party." Section 8, "Any member of the socialist party who has been an office holder under a capitalist party shall, before being eligible to a nomination from the party, serve

the party in the ranks during one previous election, regardless of his length of membership in the party."

Now, if the capitalists think they can swallow that, let them go ahead. This organization is iron-clad, and the same all over the world, and the capitalist class can't run it.

## FROM WISCONSIN

(Continued from page 1.)

social-democrats in the common council are therefore making an effort to get a better system of alarms introduced into the public schools.

Teofilo Petriolla spent Jan. 7 and 8 in Milwaukee. The Italian priest, getting wind of his presence, preached against him and forbade his hearers to attend the meetings of this "Anarchist." Nevertheless, Comrad Petriella made a good beginning which will mean an Italian organization later on.

The Milwaukee social-democrats are now taking a referendum on the candidate to be placed upon their city ticket, including mayor, comptroller, treasurer, and city attorney. The new primary law of Wisconsin requires the nomination of all candidates in primaries and makes it possible for the old parties to run in their candidates on the social-democratic ticket.

Our referendum, although of course it has no legal force, is intended to obviate the danger of our party being overpowered at the primaries. The candidates selected by the referendum party vote will be the only ones for whom the party will get out nomination papers, and will present a solid front at the primaries, which will prevent all trickery on the part of the capitalist politicians.

The Milwaukee Daily News says: "Nothing could better show how thoroughly the people of Wisconsin have been surfeited with politics the last few years than the lack of interest which is being shown in the coming municipal campaign, and outside of the social-democrats, there is very little work being done by any party in preparation for the municipal election which is now less than three months away."

Five thousand Polish leaflets have been printed by the Milwaukee social-democratic campaign committee and will be distributed in the Polish districts. In spite of the fierce opposition of the Polish priests, many Poles in Milwaukee will vote the social-democratic ticket next April.

The social-democratic aldermen of Racine in the last meeting of the city council introduced a resolution looking towards municipal ownership of the Racine waterworks. The plan of the social-democrats is, first that the city council appoint a committee to confer with the owners of the local waterworks system and ascertain the price at which they would sell the works at the expiration of their franchise; secondly, to submit to the people the question of buying or building at the municipal election in April this year, and thirdly, that a two mill tax on all taxable property be levied for this purpose. Of course, the old party aldermen oppose the measure in toto.

The Milwaukee "Wisconsin," Republican, says that "two separate political conferences have been held within the past few days with the idea of organizing a citizens' movement for the spring campaign to oppose the social-democrats in the city election. Democrats, stalwarts and halfbreeds took part in one of the gatherings. The business men of the city do not want the social-democrats to carry the city next spring, and from the outlook at present, they acknowledge that there is danger of that result. Rather than run the risk of turning the city over to socialists, they want to forget for the time being their jealousies and differences and unite on a man whose character and influence will be a guarantee against any political or factional schemes and who will administer the affairs of the city in a business-like way." We thought we should drive the two old parties together, but did not expect that desirable result quite at this stage of the game.

## OLD PARTY MACHINES AND HOW THEY

## OPERATE

BY ONE WHO HELPED TO OPERATE

## CHAPTER IX.

(The Silver Craze.)

Golden City was surprised in her new mayor. Although he owed his election to Fusion tactics, he was one of the few men in politics at this time who proved to be more honest than either his party or his affiliations. Corporations, political rings, and criminal combinations felt his iron rule of honest administration. The people loved him for his honesty and the politicians feared him on account of his honesty. Bottle Keno, Kelly, Costello and even Spinney were fast becoming "things of the past." Hank Grady in an evil moment attempted to kill Rose Spinney in her room at the Castellano. After a long and hotly contested trial, where his whole criminal career was dragged into the light of day, he was convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary. Exit Grady.

Spinney sold out his property and Golden City knew him no more. Kelly still hangs around the badlands and Bottle Keno left this earth for another world. Crimmins is said to be converted to better things. Costello died by his own hand. Frankie Rainey went to Alaska where she is reported to have become rich. I myself concluded to go north also, but on my way to the polar regions I stayed off in the state of Washington in the city of Puget.

The city is one of the most progressive of the cities of the north. Golden City in her palmy days of machine rule had never seen more corruption than Puget experienced before and after the big fire. But as I said already, the tidal wave of reform had struck the country and Puget in particular. A new star arose on the political horizon. That star was Bryan, the Delphic oracle who proclaimed in words of fire "you cannot put upon the brow of labor a crown of thorns, nor crucify mankind upon a cross of gold." This tribune of the forum said that all our political ills were caused by "the gold standard." The Populists said so, the reform (?) Democrats said so, and the reform (?) Republicans said so. The people as usual listened, and as usual were fooled and betrayed.

The "Pops" were led by a gang of discredited charlatans from the old machines. The Democrats were led by a bevy of new political ringmasters who were failures in the old circus of sham democracy. And the Republicans were led to the shambles by a few disgruntled shysters who were unable to handle the reins of the G. O. P.

The reform wave was on and something must be done. What wing would I join in with? I had been through a Fusion deal already. I had also been a straight machine man. But now, in this city of Puget, I was up against a novelty. Three parties were all for the same thing—the free and unlimited coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1. These three parties were afraid to join into one party—that would be treason to tradition, it might do away with "my father's politics."

Finally ten men—four from the Pops, four from the Democrats, and two from the Silver Republicans—met and decided upon the formation of a political trinity—one party with three heads, or one head with three parties. Some said it was a Triple Alliance, others called it a three-ringed-circus.

When the three conventions met the spoils of office were agreed upon after a prolonged squabble. Honesty is a good thing to speak about, and perhaps a better thing to practice; but if you are up against "the gold standard," and you mean to win, you are liable, especially in a political campaign, to throw a little "free silver" among the ward heeled. You can try all kinds of experiments upon them but there is nothing so popular after all as a handful of "dough."

When I left for the north I had a few letters of introduction in my possession. One of them was from my first political employer, the Hon. John S. More. I presented it to Eugene W. Spray of Puget City—one of the "decemvirs." He did the rest. Suffice it to say that I was put to work in the bad lands. Eugene said, "do your best, and if you know of any new wrinkles in the game, put us next." I had four chances to go to work that self same day in Puget. A saw mill man at Ballard offered me a job shoveling sawdust at \$1.50 per day; a rancher near Puget City offered me \$20 a month and board; and an excavating contractor in the city offered me work at \$1.25 a day. Board and room could be had for \$5.00 per week. There are millions of wage-slaves in this glorious country of ours who would take any of the jobs I was offered, and who would say that it was the will of Providence. Now as I am not a firm believer in God furnishing jobs to wage-slaves, I concluded to give the "honorable" Eugene Spray a trial; and Eugene was really more liberal than either the lumberman, the rancher, or the contractor. In fact, I got more

from Mr. Spray for my "labor" than any of the other men would give me for ten times as much. The rancher, the lumberman, nor the contractor would hire me unless they made a profit out of my labor. Now a system that permits them to rob me, under the cloak of employment, out of a certain amount of my labor, is economically dishonest. Then how could I expect to be honest in my selection of a master? Why doesn't the preacher who produces nothing, the lawyer who produces nothing, the bondholder who produces nothing—why don't they try their hand at shoveling sawdust, pitching mud or hoeing weeds? The system is dishonest, and why shouldn't they? Who says that I should, when I could make ten times as much "ward-heeling" in the bad lands? "What fools these mortals be!"

The Triple Alliance had money. The wealthiest men in the state were in on the deal. The bad lands of Puget are located in the 6th precinct of the 1st ward. About election time the most of the lumberjacks are in town and they are half the population in the Puget Sound country. The night before election, "Big Humphrey" and a few of us went into the 6th precinct. One of us posed as a gold standard man, and as a matter of course got into an argument. The floaters took sides. The gold standard floaters were invited to follow our gold standard heeler round the neighborhood. When a number of them were secured, they were taken to the notorious Mint saloon and fed on whisky and patriotism until they passed off into dreamland. This policy was pursued all night until hundreds of American kings were "laid out" in the arms of King Alcohol. When the polls were opened next morning the advocates of "sound money" were "not dead, but drunk, be god."

The lads who refused to have "a crown of thorns" upon their brow, went to the ballot box and deposited a little marked ballot in exchange for "two cartwheels" of Free Silver. The ballots were marked by Big Humphrey and his gang by means of the endless chain system of voting. There was nothing to it—Washington went for the "three-ringed-circus." A few favorable laws were passed, but the people got tired of reform, and the state was now gone back to its first love—the G. O. P.

The people never ruled Washington, and never will, until they fire every political parasite into Puget Sound and run their own political machine in their own interests. No politician will ever be honest until the incentive to dishonesty is removed. It was Pope who said in his Essay on Man "An honest man is the noblest work of God." But the noblest work of man will be an honest politician, and that can only be accomplished when there can be no profits in politics. When the human race will realize that it can be happier when things are produced for use and necessity, instead of for profit and waste, then will the ward-heeler cease to be, and the voice of the politician will be heard no more in the land.

While the present system of capitalism will obtain, you cannot do away with the politician, because he belongs to the system. Neither can you down him under the present system because like Banquo's ghost, he will not down. He does not make himself—economic conditions make him. The people can change the conditions, the politician can't.

The question is, will the people change the conditions? Not until the conditions force them—then they will. The great mass of the people are the descendants of slaves and they have not got over the legacy of inheritance yet. The politician is naturally a freeman. If he can't be boss, he, at least, is looking for an easy master—and who would blame him. Even the ward-heeler is a man. He hates slavery, and consequently prefers knavery. There never yet was a man who wouldn't be a criminal freeman in preference to an honest slave. So I say to the innocent, simple "man with the hoe," who is proud of his slavery, that for me and my house "give me a ward-heeler's liberty or give me death."

—Max.

## FROM MINNESOTA

(Continued from page 1.)

three locals which had become discouraged and fallen by the way have again appeared upon the firing line with renewed interest, determined to continue the work for the co-operative commonwealth until the final victory is won.

Comrade Barr delivered his first lecture in the state at Exelior January 5, and received an urgent invitation to return for two more dates in the near future.

G. F. Peterson of Hibbing writes:

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in the heart of the Crazy Mountains at Springdale, Mont., bring beneficial results in cases of rheumatism, dyspepsia, neuralgia, lumbago and stomach and kidney ailments. Delightful surroundings. Swimming pool, 40 x 60 feet. Write J. E. McCormick, Proprietor, for complete information.

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TIME CARD EFFECTIVE NOV. 6, 1904

Daily Except Sunday		Daily Except Sunda	
Leave 8:45 a. m.	Lombard.....	Arrive 3:45 p. m.	
Leave 11:40 a. m.	Dorsey.....	Arrive 1:10 p. m.	
Arrive 11:55 a. m.	Summit.....	Leave 12:50 p. m.	
Leave 12:26 p. m.	Summit.....	Arrive 12:25 p. m.	
Leave 12:55 p. m.	Lennepe.....	Arrive 11:40 a. m.	
Leave 1:25 p. m.	Martinsdale.....	Arrive 11:10 a. m.	
Leave 2:00 p. m.	Twodot.....	Arrive 10:35 a. m.	
Leave 2:40 p. m.	Harlowtown.....	Arrive 9:57 a. m.	
Leave 4:00 p. m.	Garneill.....	Arrive 8:35 a. m.	
Leave 5:00 p. m.	Moore.....	Arrive 7:50 a. m.	
Arrive 6:00 p. m.	Lewistown.....	Leave 7:00 a. m.	

MONTANA RAILROAD CO.,

Helena, Montana

## SOCIALIST PUBLICATIONS

THE AMERICAN FARMER—By A. M. Simons. The ablest work yet produced in socialist literature on the economic status of the agricultural industry.

ORIGIN OF THE FAMILY, PROPERTY, AND THE STATE—By Frederick Engels. This volume

covers the matter treated in his "Ancient Society" relative to his researches among the Iroquois Indians concerning early tribal institutions, and their development into present institutions from economic necessity.

The News is Now Supplying These Books, 50c Each Postpaid.

"The present political outlook on the range is clearing up somewhat and is now better than at any previous time in the history of the party, and their will be no objection to sailing under the banner of the Public Ownership (Socialist) Party's banner, and each day now helps matters our way. The fact is the Western Federation going into politics has caused considerable apprehension among the mining people, because they do not know where things will end, and this with the continual agitation of the Finnish socialists is keeping them guessing. We want Comrade Carr here at least three days."

Local Kataja of Buhl sent their struggling comrades in Russia a Christmas present of \$41 in addition to a previous gift of \$35, and a purse is now being raised to give them another lift.

Comrades in St. Louis county are looking around for their most available timber for legislators, sheriff etc., and think they have a fair chance of winning out in the spring election.

## Card Party.

Local Helena will hold a card party in the parlors of the Workers' club Thursday, Feb. 1. Refreshments will be served, and a general good time is expected. The reputation of these card parties is already well known. Pleasant rooms, plenty of good music, good eating. Tickets 25 cents. Everybody welcome.

The Arlington hotel on North Main St., has been nicely fitted up by Mrs. Sam Stewart.

## The Arlington Hotel

Mrs. Sam Stewart, Prop.

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## LOCAL LIVINGSTON, of the

Socialist Party

Meets every Monday Night at Socialist Hall, No. B. St. HOWARD NETHKIN, Sec.

Lake Como Local of Socialist Party has obtained a Charter from the State Committee and is now ready to receive applications for membership from any farmer or wage worker in Ravalli county. For further information write to the address—Lake Como Local, Como, Montana.

## Dr. G. A. Willett

DENTIST

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